

- (c) a molecule encoding the amino acid sequence encoded by (a) or (b);
- (d) a nucleotide sequence which differs from sequence (a), (b) or (c) due to its origin from other mammals wherein said nucleotide sequence hybridizes with one of the sequences from (a), (b) or (c) under stringent hybridization conditions in 6x SSC at 62-66° C followed by one hour wash with 0.6x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 62-66°; and
- (e) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with one of the sequences from (a), (b), (c) or (d) under stringent hybridization conditions in 6x SSC at 62-66° followed by one hour wash with 0.6x SSC and 0.1% SDS at 62-66°C.

25. The protein according to claim 24, wherein said protein has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2; SEQ ID NO: 4; the part of SEQ ID NO: 2 corresponding to the mature protein; the part of SEQ ID NO: 4 corresponding to the mature protein and sequences containing conservative substitutions of the amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4.

26. A heterodimeric protein comprising a monomer of the protein of claim 24 and a monomer of another protein from the superfamily with a "cysteine knot motif".

27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein of claim 24 and pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or auxiliary substances, diluents or fillers.

28. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein of claim 26 and pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or auxiliary substances, diluents or fillers.--

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